



THE KING'S SCHOOL

GRANTHAM



Ref: U:\DofE\Y9 Bronze
August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you this time to update you on the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. As you will be aware, the expeditions were moved from the spring time due to the situation around Covid-19 and were moved to the end of September and early October; the exact dates for the expeditions can be found in the table below.

Practice Expedition	26 and 27 September 2020
Assessed Expedition	3 and 4 October 2020

The current Department for Education guidelines advise against all residential trips and therefore we will be offering the expeditions with no overnight camp. Further details will be provided closer to the expeditions but in brief, your son will be dropped off at the start point, he will hike to the campsite, cook and eat his meal and be collected by a parent/guardian that evening. The following morning he will be dropped off at the campsite to complete the second day of hiking and collected from the finish point.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award has assured us that this is an acceptable way to achieve the Expedition section of the Award and, although it is not what we expected, we feel that this is the best way for students to complete this section and ultimately their Award under the current circumstances.

Holding the Duke of Edinburgh's Award will benefit your son in later life. We will, along with the usual health and safety requirements, have a Covid-19 risk assessment in place; this will be put together by ourselves and BXM. This risk assessment will see us put measures in place to make your son as safe as possible. I will write to you with details of this closer to the time of the expedition.

If you wish for your son to continue with the expedition and therefore complete the award can I ask that the full payment for the Bronze Award is made using the School's ParentPay system. As I wrote in the letter sent out in March the deadline for payment is **11.00am on Thursday 27 August 2020**. If the balance has not been paid by 11.00am on Friday 27 August 2020 then your son will not be able to complete the expeditions and therefore unable to complete the Bronze Award.

Can I also take the opportunity to remind you of BXM's cancellation policy:

"BXM Expeditions must have 4 weeks' notice of any cancellation or withdrawal from the award in order to receive a refund. Refunds are not given for events already attended or within 4 weeks of notification. For example, if a participant attends a training day and decides to not continue with the expedition section of the award and the Practice and Qualifying expedition are more than 4 weeks away a refund will be given for the Practice and Qualifying expeditions. If the Practice expedition is 3 weeks away from the notification and the Qualifying is 5 weeks away, a refund will be given for the Qualifying expedition but not the Practice."

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Therefore, if you have already paid the full amount and your son no longer wishes to complete the Award Expeditions you must have informed the Finance Department by the 27 August Deadline in order to access any refund that may be available.

I appreciate that this may be a difficult request for some at this time; but it important we have accurate numbers and payments by the deadline to allow us to meet our commitments to BXM. Please do get in touch with me using my school email address Thomas.cawthorn@kings.lincs.sch.uk if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mr Tom Cawthorn